



Annual Parent Leadership Conference Agenda **Strengthening Partnerships to Achieve Student Success**

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

7:45 - 8:30 Registration and Refreshments

8:30 - 9:50 General Session

Exhibition Hall A (Lower Level)

Welcome

Michael Thompson, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Keynote

Byron Garrett, National PTA Chief Executive Officer
As CEO, Byron provides leadership for staff working in partnership with volunteer leadership to steward the nation's largest child advocacy association composed of more than five million members around the globe. Throughout his career, he has been a visionary agent of change promoting the idea that everyone has an obligation and opportunity to serve the best interests of our nation's most precious resource – children. Byron brings to PTA a unique combination of experience from both the non-profit and governmental sectors.

9:50 – 10:00 Break

10:00 -- 10:55 Morning Workshops A

The Partnership Process

A1. Madison Ballroom A

Introduction to Partnership Basics for Schools and Districts

Children learn better when parents are involved. **Betsy Prueter**, DPI VISTA supervisor, and **Trudy Ranallo**, Parents Are Key coordinator of Parents Plus, describe how your school or district can use the Six Types of Partnerships, the Partnership Action Team and the One-Year Action Plan to create a custom-made, research-based effort that advances your school goals right from the start of the year. Attend with a team so everyone is on the same page when you get home.

A2. Madison Ballroom B

The Partnership Process: Sharing What Works

This discussion session offers schools experienced in implementing partnerships the chance to share and learn ideas about how the partnership process and the Partnership Action Team work for them. How do schools truly make partnerships a part of daily life instead of “random acts” of parent involvement? Led by **Ruth Anne Landsverk**, DPI family-school-community partnerships coordinator, and **Tamara Johnson**, Milwaukee Public Schools parent involvement coordinator.

A3. Exhibition Hall A

*Organizing Parents for Partnerships:
The Role of Parent Organizations in Schools*

Learn how parent organizations can provide schools with an authentic parent voice, leadership, and trusting relationships centered around children. National PTA CEO **Byron Garrett** and Wisconsin PTA President **Roxanne Starks** share insights for strengthening parent organizations in your school or district.

11:00 – Noon Morning Workshops B

Relating Partnerships to School Issues

B1. Madison Ballroom A

I SMART: Improving Student Math Achievement by Reasoning Together

Math is for everyone. Learn new activities that parents and teachers can use at school and home to help every child succeed in math. This practical, child-centered approach, presented by **Laura Godfrey**, instructional resource teacher for the Madison Metropolitan School District, offers hands-on ideas for everyone.

B2. Madison Ballroom B

Reading Workshop

Good readers are more likely to be successful in school, and it all starts at home. How can families be reading-ready and knowledgeable about what reading strategies at home will help their child succeed at school? Bring your questions and thoughts to this learning session.

B3. Madison Ballroom C

Involving Fathers in Children's Learning

A little father involvement goes a long way to increasing a child's school success. **Charles Saylor**, National PTA president, discusses why it's so important for fathers to be involved in their children's schools and why more and more fathers are doing so inside and outside of PTA.

B4. Hall of Ideas G

Getting into College: What Every Parent Should Know

Parents of students in Grades 7-12 can learn how to help their children prepare for college, including setting expectations, preparing academically, researching and applying for college, and financial aid. **Molly Vidal**, Wisconsin Covenant deputy director, also explains resources for Wisconsin parents, including the Wisconsin Covenant and KnowHow2GOWisconsin.

B5. Hall of Ideas J

The Core Academic Standards:

Wisconsin's On-Ramp to the Global Education Highway

Wisconsin's new Common Core Standards in math and English, collaboratively developed by 48 states, identify what students need to know and be able to do to graduate from high school and be college-, career-, and world-ready. DPI Education Consultants **Jacqueline Iribarren**, PhD, and **Emilie Amundsen** discuss how parents and teachers can help all students achieve these learning targets.

B6. Meeting Room N

School Finance 101: A Primer for Families

Fair funding for schools must provide adequate investments in children's education, even in difficult financial times. **Tom Beebe** of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools explains how school finance issues affect your district and how you can help shape them.

Noon – 12:45 LUNCH

Exhibition Hall A (Lower Level)

Be sure to visit the booths sponsored by Parents Plus,

*Wisconsin FACETS, VISTA*AmeriCorps, and Wisconsin PTA!*

Luncheon Message from Featured Guest Speaker

Charles Saylor, National PTA President.

1:00 – 2:00 Afternoon Workshops

Building the Climate for Partnerships

C1. Madison Ballroom A

Building Community Leadership

for English Language Learners(ELL) and Their Families

English language learners especially benefit from having parents involved in their school life. Discover ways to increase ELL parental involvement and ELL academic achievement. **Jesus Santos**, director of MPS Bilingual and Multicultural Education, **Robin Rivas**, MPS ESL curriculum specialist, **Gloria Gonzalez**, bilingual parent liaison and **Jacqueline Iribarren**, PhD, DPI Title III director, describe ways to enhance a school culture that will support ELL students and their families.

C2. Madison Ballroom B

Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS):

Building on Children's, Families' Strengths

How can schools and families together create learning environments that benefit all students? PBIS is a team-based, problem-solving process that has improved student achievement and behavior in many schools, as part of Response to Intervention. **Justyn Poulos**, Wisconsin PBIS Network coordinator, and **Nicole Beier**, coordinator of Statewide PBIS Evaluation and Research, present an overview and strategies for ensuring that families feel welcome and well-informed about participating in this important process.

C3. Madison Ballroom C

A Safe Place for All: What Parents Should Know about Anti-Bullying Efforts in Wisconsin Schools

What does Wisconsin's new Anti-Bullying Policy mean for students and families? **Jon Hisgen**, DPI health education consultant, discusses what children will learn in school and how schools can involve families in creating safe, positive learning environments for all students.

C4. Hall of Ideas G

The Team Effort: Gaining Staff Buy-In for Partnerships

Getting everyone on staff aboard the partnership bandwagon may be harder than it sounds. Learn from **Susan Werley**, principal of Nicolet Elementary, Menasha, and **David Harswick**, WEAC secretary/treasurer, how to nurture enthusiasm and trust with families among every member of your school staff.

C5. Hall of Ideas J

Policymaking for Good Partnerships

at District and State Levels

Family-friendly policies set the stage for teachers, administrators, and parents to work together for students. What do effective district and state policies look like, how do they fit with Title I and No Child Left Behind, and how can they propel your partnerships from "random acts" to purposeful plans? **Pat Demos**, community school relations manager for the Kenosha School District, and **Shirley Moutry**, PhD, DPI education consultant, tell how.

C6. Meeting Room N

Cultivating Parent Leadership on School Teams

How can schools and families work together to create positive learning environments that benefit all students? Learn more about the role of parents in school leadership and decision-making. Share your ideas about what works to get parents involved in shaping school programs from the ground up with **Dawn Wians**, Wisconsin FACETS.

2:00 – 2:10 Break

****Turn into the registration desk your nomination for a "Partnership Pal" prize! Give a team member attending the conference (or yourself!) the chance to be recognized for working to involve families!**

2:10 – 3:00 General Session

Exhibition Hall A (Lower Level)

World Café: Making Partnerships Happen at Your School

Jane Grinde, DPI Community Learning and Partnerships director, and **Betsy Prueter**, DPI VISTA supervisor, facilitate this session and ask two big questions:

1. What are you going to do to improve partnerships in your school/community?
2. How will you make it happen in your school or district?

This hands-on process will get you started!

Partnership Pal Award Drawings

3:00 Adjourn

Please Turn in Evaluations at the Registration Desk

Day at a Glance

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8:30 – 9:50 General Session

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**10:00 – 10:55 Morning Workshops A:
The Partnership Process**

**11:00 – Noon Morning Workshops B:
Relating Partnerships to School Issues**

Noon – 12:45 Lunch and Exhibit Booths

Message from Charles Saylor, National PTA President

**1:00 – 2:00 Afternoon Workshops:
Building the Climate for Partnerships**

2:00 – 2:10 Break

Nominate a team member as a “Partnership Pal” to receive a prize!

2:10 – 3:00 General Session: World Café
Turn in Evaluations at the Registration Desk

3:00 Adjourn

*Sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and
Parents Plus.*